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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
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09/361,893

07/27/1999

CHRISTOPHER L. MCCRANK

2000.009700

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04/01/2004

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EXAMINER

CHANG, EDITH M

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

2634

DATE MAILED: 04/01/2004

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Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/361,893

Applicant(s)

MCCRANK ET AL.

Examiner

Edith M Chang

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 09 January 2004.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-20 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-20 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
- 1) ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 - 2) ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 - 3) ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

3DETAILED ACTION

Response to Arguments

1. Applicant's arguments, see pages 8-12, filed January 09 2004, with respect to the rejection(s) of claim(s) 1-7, 11-15, 18-19 have been fully considered under Taki in view over Kung et al. and Mincher. A new ground(s) of rejection is made under Taki in view of Kung et al. as follow.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

2. The following is a quotation of the first paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall contain a written description of the invention, and of the manner and process of making and using it, in such full, clear, concise, and exact terms as to enable any person skilled in the art to which it pertains, or with which it is most nearly connected, to make and use the same and shall set forth the best mode contemplated by the inventor of carrying out his invention.

3. Claims 1-20 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, first paragraph, as failing to comply with the enablement requirement. The claim(s) contains subject matter which was not described in the specification in such a way as to enable one skilled in the art to which it pertains, or with which it is most nearly connected, to make and/or use the invention.

In claim 1 lines 7-8 and claim 11 lines 8-9, "to select a second radio frequency during a time period within the first time frame" is not taught in Figure 4 and its illustration wherein the selecting a second radio frequency performs during a time period within the second time frame B, not the first time frame (the time frame A).

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Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

4. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

5. Claims 1-19 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Taki (US 5966665) in view of Kung et al. (US 4654859).

Regarding **claims 1 & 11**, except explicitly specify the VCO, Taki does disclose a method and apparatus for transmitting between first and second communication units (10 & 11 FIG.1) of which each comprises a controller (FIG.2) to set the communication over a plurality of radio frequencies (column 7 lines 35-38). They comprise: setting the first and second units to transmit and receive communication over a first radio frequency during a first time frame (FIG.13 A0 is the first radio frequency during the first time frame comprising the phases 51-53/61-63); selecting a second radio frequency during a time period within the first time frame (FIG.3 phase 53 when the second radio frequency is selected according to the pattern, column 2 lines 45-54 where the hop frequency is generated during each frame, FIG.3, column 4 lines 35-50 where during a time period within the frame select the radio frequency); and setting the first and second communication units to respectively receive and transmit communication over the second radio frequency during a second time frame (A1 FIG.13, FIG.3 the second time frame is the 54 and 64, phase 64 for Tx and phase 54 for Rx). However Kung et al. teaches a frequency synthesizer for frequency hopping by using the VCO and the frequency multiplier (FIG.1, column 3 lines 20-28) to multiply the initial frequency to provide the

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second frequency (FIG.1, column 3 lines 45-55, column 4 lines 42-60, where the initial frequency is $F1/Fc$). As using the frequency synthesizer (40 FIG.2) to set the frequency by Taki, at the time of the invention, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to implement the frequency synthesizer taught by Kung et al. in Taki's system to have an effective and inexpensive way to select the second radio frequency (column 2 lines 3-10).

Regarding **claims 2-4, & 12**, Taki discloses features cited in these claims: selecting the next (the second or third) radio frequency during the current time frame (the first or second time frame) by controller of each unit to transmit communication between transmitter and receiver (22, 23, 43 FIG.2, column 4 lines 13-18) of the first and second units.

Regarding **claims 5-7, & 13-15**, Taki discloses features cited in these claims, since Taki teaches the frame structures in FIG.3 and column 4 lines 33-49 that the transmitter and receiver of the first and second units can be set to transmit and receive at the time frame at the selected frequency respectively.

Regarding **claims 8-9, & 16-17**, except explicitly specify tripling the initial frequency by a frequency multiplier, Taki discloses selecting a second radio frequency during the first time frame (refer the rationale of claim 1). However Kung et al. teaches selecting an initial frequency by a VCO (FIG.1, column 3 lines 45-55, column 4 lines 42-60, where the initial frequency is $F1/Fc$) and tripling the initial frequency by a frequency multiplier to select a second radio frequency (where the N/M or $F+2*\Delta F$ triples the initial frequency as chosen design). As using the frequency synthesizer (40 FIG.2) to set the frequency by Taki, at the time of the invention, it would have been obvious to one of

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ordinary skill in the art to implement the frequency synthesizer taught by Kung et al. in Taki's system to triple the initial frequency to have an effective and inexpensive way to select the second radio frequency (column 2 lines 3-10).

Regarding **claims 10, & 18-19**, Taki discloses the first communication unit is a base unit (10 FIG.1, column 1 lines 12-18) and the second communication unit is a remote unit of a cordless telephone (11 FIG.1, column 1 lines 12-18).

6. Claim 20 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Taki (U.S. Patent 596665) in view of Deutsch et al. (U.S. Patent 5590410).

Regarding **claim 20**, Taki teaches the base unit is coupled to the external telephone circuit (column 3 lines 45-49), however does not explicitly specify the external telephone circuit as the PSTN. Deutsch et al. disclose a base unit is coupled to the PSTN (18, 12 FIG.1). Therefore, at the time of the invention, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to have the Taki's base unit coupling to the PSTN taught by Deutsch et al. to establish communications between base unit and remote unit in a telephone system (column 1 lines 63-67).

Conclusion


7. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Edith M Chang whose telephone number is 703-305-3416. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F.

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If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Stephen Chin can be reached on 703-305-4714. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Edith Chang
March 23, 2004


CHIEH M. FAN
PRIMARY EXAMINER